

occasions we saw the brownish young ones approach adult birds with their heads dipped, and bills open, while they croaked anxiously. The adults then apparently fed them, but we could not see what was being passed from bill to bill.

On the 26th March, 1986, one of our members Shri Digveerendrasinh Solanki and I observed a fascinating aspect of Flamingo behaviour.

On this visit there were approximately a thousand birds scattered over the shallows. Just after dawn there was a large aggregation in an isolated creek in the distance. The activity appeared frantic. On carefully approaching the birds it was observed that there were several groups in the centre of the flock engaged in picturesque corporate displays.

'SAKEN' VALANTINA SOCIETY,
NORTH MAIN ROAD,
KOREGAON PARK, PUNE 411 001,
April 12, 1986.

Seven or eight would come together wagging heads and croaking loudly. They would all bring their heads together, their bills nearly touching, in a tight circle. As their calls became louder they would erect the long feathers on their backs like huge white and pink lotus flowers.

The noisy activity would stop as suddenly as it had begun, to be repeated either in an adjacent group, or a few minutes later in the same one.

This activity continued periodically between bouts of feeding between 7 A.M. and 10 A.M. when they moved off into another area nearby.

It remains to be seen if this heralds a migration northwards to their breeding grounds in Kutch, or the remote possibility of setting up a colony at Bhigwan itself.

ERACH BHARUCHA

10. OCCURRENCE OF THE FALCATED TEAL *ANAS FALCATA* (GEORGI) IN KHIJADIA BIRD SANCTUARY, GUJARAT

On 24th December 1984 around 4.30 p.m. while walking along the Jheel bund which is situated in front of the Khijadia salt works pump house, we saw to our surprise six Falcated Teals (*Anas falcata*) 3 males and 3 females feeding together. The male can be easily identified by Bronze-green, purple head and the long sickle shaped feathers falling over the closed wing, whereas the female with dull brown colour, has the speculum edged with white. The Falcated Teal is a rare winter vagrant to

AVIFAUNA PROJECT,
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THANJAVUR DIST., TAMIL NADU,
March 22, 1986.

India, less rare in Burma and the Shan states and common throughout the Indo-Chinese countries (THE BIRDS OF KUTCH p. 164). The Maharao Vijayarajji of Kutch shot a bird on 7th February, 1932 in Kutch (*JBNHS* 35, pp. 899). There is only one record of its occurrence in the neighbouring province of Sind (*ibid.* 14, p. 149). So this is the second sight record of Falcated Teal in Gujarat after a gap of nearly fifty two years.

V. NATARAJAN
ASAD AKTHAR